

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

7. (Currently amended) A method for the ~~prevention or~~ treatment of Recurrent Oral Aphthous Ulcers (ROAU) and for preventing the occurrence of new recurrent oral aphthous ulcers (ROAU) comprising consisting of administering, as the sole active ingredient, hyaluronic acid or a salt thereof, having an average molecular weight comprised between 800,000 and 4,000,000, to a subject in need thereof.
8. (Previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 7, wherein the hyaluronic acid is administered the form of sodium salt.
9. (Previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 8 wherein said hyaluronic acid sodium salt is topically administered.
10. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 9, wherein said hyaluronic acid is administered in the form of topical compositions containing sodium hyaluronate in concentrations between 0.01 and 10% by weight on the total weight of the compositions.
11. (Currently amended) The method according to ~~claim 4~~ claim 10, characterised in that said concentration is between 0.01 and 5% by weight on the total weight of the compositions.
12. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 7 wherein said average molecular weight of hyaluronic acid is between 1,000,000 and 2,000,000.